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Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 01863 131157Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PA-02 INR-07 INRE-00 SSO-00
/029 W
----------023083 131159Z /53
O 122046Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMEDIATE
INFO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5096

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 1863

SANTO DOMINGO FOR LAURENCE GARUFI AND VALDEZ WITH
TRAVELING PARTY
USIA FOR ILA; IOP/M IOP/USUN
SECSTATE FOR AID FOR AA/LA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION : PRESS CONFERENCE BY MR. ABELARDO VALDEZ,
ASST. ADMINISTRATOR FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
USAID, AUGUST 11, 1977, GEORGETOWN

REF: USIA 21235-U CIRCULAR

1. GOVERNMENT-OWNED GUYANA CHRONCILE CARRIES FRONT-PAGE
STORY AUGUST 12 SUMMARIZING PRESS CONFERENCE BY MR.
ABELARDO VALDEZ, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR LATIN AMERICA
AND CARIBBEAN USAID PRIOR DEPARTURE GEORGETOWN, AUGUST 11.

2. ARTICLE REPORTS THAT MR. VALDEZ SAID USAID PLANS
TO INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY ITS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
FOR GUYANA FROM OCTOBER 1, THE BEGINNIN OF THE NEW
FISCAL YEAR. INCREASE WILL BE MADE FROM US$1.1 MILLION
FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR TO APPROXIMALELY US$12 MILLION
DURING FISCAL 1978.
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3.NEW PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1978 WILL CONSIST
OF TWO SOFT LOANS AND THREE GRANTS. ONE LOAN IN
AMOUNT OF US$6 MILLION WILL BE FOR RURAL FEEDER
ROADS AND THE OTHER LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF US $5
MILLION WILL BE UTILIZED FOR AGRICULTURAL CREDIT.

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4. ARTICLE THEN REFERS TO STATEMENT BY USAID ACTING DIRECTOR IN GUYANA, PETER KOLAR, THAT USAID HAS ALREADY MADE COMMITMENT FOR FEEDER ROADS PROJECT AND THAT WASHINGTON APPROVAL WILL PROBABLY BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 30. KOLAR ADDED THAT A TEAM OF EXPERTS IS EXPECTED IN GUYANA ON AUGUST 13 FOR TWO WEEKS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH GOG MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE AND WORKS AND TRANSPORT FOR PREPARATION OF PROJECT DOCUMENT FOR APPROVAL.

5. CONTINUING WITH MR. KOLAR'S REMARKS, STORY MENTIONS THAT AGRICULTURAL CREDIT PROJECT WILL PROBABLY NOT BE APPROVED BEFORE EARLY NEXT YEAR AND THAT MONEY WILL BE CHANNELED TO THE GUYANA AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT BANK FOR LENDING "THE POOREST OF THE POOR FARMERS."

6. RETURNING TO VALDEZ'S AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE, STORY STATES THAT MR. VALDEZ EXPLANED THAT THE AGRICULTURAL LOAN WOULD HAVE ATTACHED TO IT A US $500,000 GRANT. IN ADDITION, A GRANT OF US $450,000 WILL BE MADE FOR RURAL HEALTH SYSTEMS AND A GRANT OF US$440,000 WILL BE MADE FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

7. MR. VALDEZ INDICATED THAT USAID WILL INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF ASSISTING IN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE GUYANA RICE BOARD FACILITIES WHICH WERE BADLY
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DAMAGED DURING A FIRE ON AUGUST 9.

8. FOLLOWING THE VALDEZ PRESS CONFERENCE USAID ACTING DIRECTOR IN GUYANA, PETER KOLAR, EXPLAINED TO THE CHRONICLE THAT IF THE TWO NEW LOANS ARE APPROVED THEY WOULD BE THE SOFTEST THAT AID COULD OFFER AND WOULD INCLUDE A REPAYMENT PERIOD OF 40 YEARS GRANTING A TEN-YEAR GRACE PERIOD WITH TWO PERCENT INTEREST AND THREE PERCENT INTEREST FOR THE REMAINING 30 YEARS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, PRESS CONFERENCES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: MEDIA REACTION : PRESS CONFERENCE BY MR. ABELARDO VALDEZ, ASST. ADMINISTRATOR FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN USAID, AUGUST 11, 1977, GEORGETOWN
TAGS: EAID, SOPN, GY, US, (VALDEZ, ABELARDO)
To: SANTO DOMINGO
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2258755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009